

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 080272

64

ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 R

DRAFTED BY CU/EE:KSWILLIAMS

APPROVED BY CU/EE:SWISE

CU/EE:RPTITUS (DRAFT)

CU/EE:WTPRYCE (DRAFT)

EUR/SOV:FNDEMARZO (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS STATE 080272

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, YO, HU, BL, RO, UR, CZ, PL (HOUSER, THOMAS)

SUBJ: AMSPECIALIST IN U.S. ELECTORAL PROCESS: THOMAS

HOUSER

REFS: A) BELGRADE 1026, B) MOSCOW 4169, C) BUCHAREST 1430,

D) BUDAPEST 871, E) BELGRADE 1810, F) MOSCOW 4309, G) SOFIA

607

1. BIO DATA ON THOMAS HOUSER FOLLOWS: BORN JUNE TWENTY-

EIGHT, 1929 IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. ATTENDED MICHIGAN

STATE COLLEGE IN LANSING (1947-48) AND RECEIVED A.B. IN

POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM HANOVER COLLEGE IN INDIANA (1951).

TOOK GRADUATE COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE

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AT THE ADVANCED SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (1951-52) AND OBTAINED J.D. DEGREE FROM NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW IN CHICAGO (1956-59). PER REFTTEL A, HOUSER IS A LAWYER AND PARTNER WITH SIDLEY AND AUSTIN (SINCE 1973). HE IS A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN, CHICAGO AND FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATIONS AND THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CABLE TELEVISION. OTHER ORGANIZA-

TIONS INCLUDE DIRECTOR OF BARRINGTON STATE BANK, SKOKIE FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION AND MARTIN E. JANIS AND CO.

2. HOUSER PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE U.S. ELECTIONS PROCESS. TOPICS PROPOSED INCLUDE:

- A. PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS: PRIMARIES AND GENERAL ELECTIONS
- B. THE CONGRESS/CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS
- C. TRENDS IN OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM

HE COULD ALSO COMMENT ON THE PUBLIC MOOD AND THE INFLUENCE OF THE MEDIA. HOUSER PREFERS A WORKSHOP/SEMINAR FORMAT FOR PRESENTATIONS. HE WOULD GIVE A TALK RANGING FROM 30-60 MINUTES AND OPEN THE DISCUSSION WITH QUESTIONS. FEELS PROGRAMMING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE WITH EMPHASIS ON DIALOGUE RATHER THAN LECTURES.

3. TENTATIVE ITINERARY FOLLOWS BASED ON REFTELS:

- A. APRIL TWENTY-FIVE - THIRTY - HUNGARY
- B. MAY ONE - SIX - YUGOSLAVIA
- C. MAY SEVEN - EIGHT - BULGARIA

4. FOR MOSCOW: HOUSER'S TOPICS RELATE MORE TO NATIONAL ELECTIONS' PROCESSES THAN MOORE'S TOPICS, ALTHOUGH VIEWS ARE NOT "SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT."

5. FOR SOFIA: CU WILL ATTEMPT RESPOND REFTEL G SOONEST.

6. FOR BUCHAREST: BELGRADE 1504 CONCERNS REQUEST FOR AMSPEC FOR SKOPJE ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR.

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7. FOR ALL INFO POSTS: HOUSER IS WILLING TO BEGIN

PROGRAMMING APRIL FIFTEEN IF INFO POSTS INTERESTED AND CAN PROGRAM DURING PERIOD APRIL FIFTEEN THROUGH TWENTY-FOUR. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE080272
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KSWILLIAMS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760125-0514
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197604100/aaaadiia.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BELGRADE 1026, 76 MOSCOW 4169, 76 BUCHAREST 1430
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisao
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by oatisao>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMSPECIALIST IN U.S. ELECTORAL PROCESS: THOMAS HOUSER
TAGS: OEXC, YO, HU, BL, RO, UR, CZ, PL, (HOUSER, THOMAS)
To: BELGRADE SOFIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006